

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Following entry of the present amendment, claims 1, 2, 5-10, 12-20, and 23 remain in the application for consideration. Claims 1, 5, and 13 are herein amended. Claims 42-50 presented in the previous Reply are herein cancelled without prejudice. Claims 3, 4, 11, and 24-41 were cancelled in previously replies.

Claim Objections, Rejections and Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 2, 5-10, and 12 were rejected under 35 USC §112 as containing subject matter which was allegedly not described in the specification. To address the rejection, Applicants herein amend claim 1 to recite that antitarnish layer has a thickness of between 5 and 1000 Angstroms. Support for this amendment may be found at page 15, line 9, of the specification. Accordingly, Applicants submit that this rejection is overcome, and that claim 1 and claims depending therefrom are allowable.

The Examiner objected to claims 21, 22, 48, and 49, but indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants herein cancel claims 42-50, and submit that objections and rejections applied to these claims are now moot. Further, Applicants herein amend claim 13 to add the limitations of claims 21 and 22 to address the objection. Applicants now

submit that claim 13, and claims depending therefrom, are allowable.

Applicants now submit that the claims are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request reconsideration and issuance of a timely Notice of Allowance.

If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a discussion with Applicants' representative would expedite prosecution, the Examiner is invited and encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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